



Introduced Version

**HOUSE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION recognizing Father Hardin,
Alpha Blackburn, Bill Mays, George Pillow, Joe Slash, and Reverend
Charles Williams for their many contributions to the state of Indiana.

Crawford

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on

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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION recognizing Father Hardin, Alpha Blackburn, Bill Mays, George Pillow, Joe Slash, and Reverend Charles Williams for their many contributions to the state of Indiana.

Whereas, The true measure of leadership is often defined as the ability to turn vision into reality;

Whereas, Father Hardin, Alpha Blackburn, Bill Mays, George Pillow, Joe Slash, and Reverend Charles Williams are true leaders who are recognized in this resolution as leaders who are not only a part of African American history but also Indiana history;

Whereas, Because of their vision, significant institutions have become a part of the economic, educational, and social fabric of Indiana;

Whereas, Father Hardin had a vision that evolved from one room in a basement to a fully accredited university that has graduated over 800 students with four-year bachelor degrees;

Whereas, Alpha Blackburn and her late husband Walter Blackburn had a vision of a community that recognized the importance of the arts and humanities as manifested through architectural projects they worked on such as the RCA Dome and Indianapolis Convention Center, Indiana Artsgarden, Purdue University Multi-Cultural Center, and the National Underground Railroad Center;



Whereas, As an employee of Cummins Engine, Bill Mays had a vision to create an independent business that has grown into one of the nation's largest African American businesses and the largest African American business in Indiana; this company is Mays Chemical, which employs 180 workers and grosses \$162 million annually;

Whereas, George Pillow, an Indiana State University graduate, had a vision that would create and expand minority business in Indianapolis and, through his work as the education chairperson for the Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce, to improve the academic achievement for students throughout the state of Indiana;

Whereas, Joe Slash had a vision that included pursuing a CPA degree from Marshall University; Mr. Slash came to Indianapolis and rose to the position of Senior Deputy Mayor in the Hudnut administration and served as an executive at IPALCO;

Whereas, Mr. Slash also provided accounting services to many not-for-profit organizations such as the Indiana Black Expo, the Mozel Sanders Thanksgiving dinner, and the Indianapolis Urban League where Mr. Slash is the interim Chief Executive Officer;

Whereas, The Reverend Charles Williams epitomizes those religious leaders who take their "Thus sayeth the Lord" from the pulpit to the streets and executive suites with a vision to empower all citizens economically, educationally, politically, socially, and spiritually;

Whereas, Under Reverend Williams' leadership the Indiana Black Expo has become the largest and most enduring display of African American arts, culture, heritages, and history in the world; and

Whereas, Bill Mays, George Pillow, Joe Slash, and Reverend Charles Williams form the executive think tank of one of America's premier sporting events, the Coca Cola Circle City Classic, which contributes significantly to the economic viability of the Hoosier capital city's downtown area and the entire state: Therefore,



*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives
of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana,
the Senate concurring:*

- 1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly acknowledges the
2 many outstanding contributions and the visionary leadership of Father
3 Hardin, Alpha Blackburn, Bill Mays, George Pillow, Joe Slash, and
4 Reverend Charles Williams which have improved the quality of life for
5 all Hoosiers and thanks them on behalf of the citizens of the state of
6 Indiana.
7 SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of
8 Representatives shall transmit a copy of this resolution to Father
9 Hardin, Alpha Blackburn, Bill Mays, George Pillow, Joe Slash, and
10 Reverend Charles Williams.

